

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 15 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7 and 15 have been amended. Support for this amendment is found at least on page 1, paragraph 2 and page 6, 5th full paragraph. Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the above amendments and Remarks submitted herewith.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 10-13, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(c) as being anticipated by Jones et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,363,164) ("Jones"). "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Moreover, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the * * * claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

The Examiner asserts that Jones teaches a method for performing a test for acceptability in the acceptance of bank notes by automatic vending machines.

Claims 1-3, 5 include the following element: "feeding a bank note at an automatic vending machine configured to provide payment for products and services; feeding said bank note to a digitalization station via a transport unit." Claims 7, 8, 10-13, and 15 include the following element: "an automatic vending machine configured to receive a bank note and to provide payment for products and services." Jones does not teach or suggest these elements.

The method and system disclosed by Jones relates to document processing systems such as automatic teller machines and currency redemption machines (Column 1, lines 13-15). Jones does not disclose a method or device for testing the acceptability of bank notes by automatic vending machines configured to provide payment for products and services. An automatic teller machine does not provide payment for products and services.

In particular, an automatic vending machine that is configured to provide payment for products and services includes mobile collection units in buses, airplanes, trains, etc., but also for ticket purchasing in train stations, airports, parking lots, etc., where service employees are centrally located at some point and are available to perform image inspections and make supplementary decisions regarding the acceptability of bank notes. See page 6, 5th full paragraph of the Specification. An automatic vending machine receives a bank note in exchange for a ticket. An automatic teller machine does not provide such payment for products and services. Instead, an automatic teller machine or currency redemption machine receives a card and allows a person to extract money from a bank account. An automatic

teller machines does not receive money in exchange for a product or service. Thus, Jones does not disclose all of the limitations of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 4, 6, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones. For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970); *Amgen v. Chugai Pharmaceuticals Co.*, 927 U.S.P.Q.2d, 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1996). In this case, the reference does not teach or suggest all of the limitations.

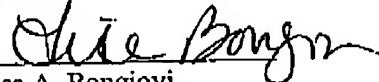
Claims 4 and 6 include all of the elements of claim 1 and claim 9 includes all of the elements of claim 7. Thus, as explained above, Jones does not teach or suggest all of the elements. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection as to claims 4, 6, and 9 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be allowed and a Notice of Allowance issued. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicant's attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is cordially requested to telephone the undersigned.

In the event the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks deems additional fees to be due in connection with this application, Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that such fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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